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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

MAERTENS, et al.

Atty. Ref.: 2551-69

Serial No. 09/995,860

Group: 1648

Filed: November 29, 2001

Examiner: LI, BAO Q

For: PURIFIED HEPATITIS C VIRUS ENVELOPE PROTEINS FOR DIAGNOSTIC AND  
THERAPEUTIC USE

\* \* \* \* \*

**November 2, 2004**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REQUEST**

The Examiner is requested to return a completely initialed PTO-1449 Form which was filed April 16, 2002, and a partially initialed copy of which was received with the Office Action of January 15, 2004. Specifically, the Examiner has initialed all the references except for U.S. Patent No. 6,150,134 A.

The Examiner is requested to return a signed and dated initialed PTO-1449 Form which was filed July 14, 2004, and an initialed copy of which was received with the Office Action of October 19, 2004 however the initialed Form has not been signed and dated by the Examiner.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge receipt and acceptance of the formal drawings filed July 29, 2002, or provide a specific rejection or objection of the same.

The Examiner is also requested to confirm that all of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in parent application Serial No. 09/553,040 as

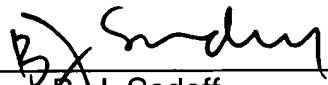
the Office Action of January 15, 2004 indicates that certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/553,040 however the Office Action does not indicate that all certified copies have been received.

The present Request is not being filed in response to the Office Action of October 19, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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**ATTY. DOCKET NO.**

**SERIAL NO.**

CITATION 01 P E

~~2551-69~~

**09/995,860**

**APPLICANT**

AERTENS, et al.

**BRING DATE**

**GROUP**

November 29, 2001

1648

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						TRANSLATION	
	DOCUMENT	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	YES	NO
BOL:	147 WO95/12677	5/1995	WO				
↓	2 WO99/67285	12/1999	WO				
	167 WO03/051912	6/2003	WO				

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent pages, etc.)

156	Leroux-Roels et al. 2001 (Hepatology 34, 449A)
157	Nevens et al. 2003 (Hepatology 38, 1289-1296)
158	Pawlotsky and McHutchison 2003 (Hepatology 39, 554-567)
106	Botarelli et al. 1993 (Gastroenterology 104, 580-587)
160	Major et al. 2002 ( J Virol 76, 6586-6595)
161	Bassett et al. 2001 (Hepatology 33, 1479-1487)
162	Weiner et al. 2001 (J Virol 75, 7142-7148)
163	Mehta et al. 2002 (Lancet 359, 1478-1483)

\*Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application.

Form PTO-FB-A820 (Also PTO-1449)

**COPY**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
CITATION

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

2551-69

APPLICANT

MAERTENS et al.

FILING DATE

November 29, 2001

SERIAL NO.

09/995,860

**RECEIVED**

APR 17 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
BCL	5,610,009	3/1997	Watanabe et al	-	-	
BCL	5,514,539	5/1996	Bukh et al	-	-	
BCL	5,919,454	7/1999	Brecht	-	-	
BCL	5,308,750	5/1994	Mehta et al	-	-	
BCL	5,871,962	2/1999	Bukh et al	-	-	
BCL	5,830,691	3/1998	Miyamura et al	-	-	
BCL	5,942,234 A	8/1999	Ralston et al	-	-	
BCL	6,150,134 A	11/2000	Maertens et al	-	-	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
WO 93/15193	8/1993	PCT	-	-	
WO 93/02103	2/1993	PCT	-	-	
WO 93/04205	3/1993	PCT	-	-	
WO 92/08734	5/1992	PCT	-	-	
WO 98 21338 A	5/1998	WIPO	-	-	
WO 96 04385 A	2/1996	WIPO	-	-	

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent pages, etc.)

BCL	Choo et al, "Vaccination of Chimpanzees Against ... Hepatitis C Virus", Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., 1994, pp. 1294-1298.
BCL	Lanford et al, "Analysis of Hepatitis C Virus ...", Virology 197, pp. 225-235, 1993.
BCL	Nishihara et al, "Secretion and Purification of Hepatitis C ...", Gene 129; 207-214, 1993.
BCL	Ralston et al, "Characterization of Hepatitis C Virus ...", J. Virol 67:6753-6761, 1993.
BCL	BOSMAN F ET AL: "Purification of the hepatitis C virus envelope proteins and analysis of their oligomeric state." 48TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF LIVER DISEASES, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, USA, NOVEMBER 7-11, 1997. HEPATOLOGY 26 (4 PART 2). 1997. 412A. XP002087226 see abstract 1136.
BCL	Ristoni et al, Compositional bias and mimicry toward the nonself proteome in immunodominant T cell epitopes of self and nonself antigens. FASEB (2000) Vol. 14, No. 3, pp. 431-438.
BCL	Paul, Fundamental Immunology, Raven Press, New York, NY 1993, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition, pg. 251, column 1, lines 11-12.
BCL	Baumert et al, Hepatitis C virus structural proteins assemble into virus like particles in insect cells. Journal of Virology (May 1998) Vol. 72, No. 5. pp. 3827-3836.

*Examiner	B. J. J. J.	Date Considered	12/21/2002
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Examiner Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application.